

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:	§	Docket No. P11712.00 / 31849.35
Shores et al.	§	
	§	Customer No. 46334
Serial No.: 10/698,638	§	
	§	Group Art Unit: 3733
Filed: October 31, 2003	§	
	§	Examiner: Cumberledge, Jerry L.
For: COUPLING SYSTEM FOR	§	
SURGICAL INSTRUMENT	§	Confirmation No.: 3375

**Mail Stop: Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**  
**MAILED OCTOBER 29, 2008**

**I. Introductory Remarks**

The present paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed October 29, 2008.

No additional fees, including extension of time fees, are believed necessary for consideration of the present paper. However, if any fees, including extension of time fees and extra claim fees, are necessary, Applicants hereby petition for the extension of time, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, including those for the extension of time, to Haynes and Boone, LLP's Deposit Account No. 08-1394.

The **Listing of Claims** begins on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 10.